

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The Applicants have considered the Examiner's amendment that was mailed with the Notice of Allowance on 11/02/2006. The amendments were made in response to a phone interview held between the Examiner and Applicants' representative on 10/30/2006. This was the first opportunity for Applicants to review the Examiner's amendment, and in response the Applicants respectfully request amendment of Claim 33 as shown above.

The Applicants agree with the substance of the Examiner's amendment to Claim 33, but respectfully disagree with the form. The Applicants submit that there may be confusion having both "means for connecting with any of the plurality of other automation modules to form a single physical assembly" and "means for physically coupling with any other of the plurality of automation modules" in the same claim. For example, the term "any other of the plurality of automation modules" as added by the Examiner is different than the term "any of the plurality of other modules" used elsewhere in the claim. Applicants respectfully assert that the amendments proposed hereinabove address the concerns of the Examiner discussed in the telephone interview regarding Claim 33, and further submit that the amendments proposed hereinabove do not change the scope of Claim 33 relative to the claim it as was amended by the Examiner. Applicants therefore respectfully request allowance of Claim 33 as amended herein.

If the Examiner believes it necessary or helpful, the undersigned attorney of record invites the Examiner to contact him to discuss any issues related to this case.

Respectfully submitted,

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By: 

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